# 2023 NAHRA INVITATIONAL



CRANESVILLE, PA
JUNE 21ST - JUNE 24TH

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### **Wednesday June 21st**

10:00AM: Handler Orientation Meeting

11:00AM: Female Dog Check 6:00PM: Opening Banquet

### **Thursday June 22nd**

8:00AM: Land Series

6:00PM: No Host Social Dinner

### Friday June 23rd

8:00AM: Upland and Trail Series

6:00PM: Workers Appreciation Dinner

### <u>Saturday June 24th</u>

8:00AM: Water Series

Following Completion of Water Series - Picnic Buffet









### TEST COMMITTEE





**Jim Bennett** Test Chairman



Larry Housman NAHRA East Regional Director



Vicki Pepper Secretary



Dave Mellender Gun Captain



Frank Plewa Bird Steward



**Wayne Howell**Development Officer



**Eric Johnston**Master of Ceremony



Aaron Grieb Website / Technology



Valerie Plewa Marshall

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOCAL SPONSORS









Family Owned & Operated 814-774-7072

It takes a small army to pull off one of these events. Our chairman, Jim Bennett, did an excellent job reaching out to the community for local support. Specifically:

**Steve Hamilton** - Graciously donating photography services for the event. Each participant will receive a web link where they can download photos free of charge.

Edinboro Hotel - Providing Catering Services for the event

Green Roof Inn - Providing discounted rooms to attendees

Camboro Veterinary Hospital - Providing on-call medical support and Bitch check.

For Animal medical emergencies: **Camboro Veterinary Hospital** 5989 Rt 6N Edinboro, PA 16412

Phone: 814-734-1628

#### For Human Emergencies:

Urgent Care: UPMC Urgent Care

2861 W. 26th Street Erie, PA 16506

Phone: 814-877-4110



### TEST CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Welcome! NAHRA was created 40 years ago by a group of dog people that wanted to provide hunting-orientated tests to the average hunter. The first tests weren't a stroll in the park, and they aren't now, but they always strive to keep hunting in the forefront for all our tests, and 2023 will be no different.

Unlike previous Invitationals, we will be using a large farm in Cranesville, PA that has never been used for a test. Its six water sites will be new to all of us, and I think that will add a little something for our handlers, especially those from the East Region, many of whom are used to having run the Invitational test





### **JUDGES**



### **Phil Hines**

NAHRA President / NAHRA Central Region Four Points Retriever Club

I have been an outdoorsman all my adult life and I have been involved with NAHRA for more than 15 years. I have held leadership positions in my local club and participated in club outreach events from Game Fair to Pheasant Fest. I have attended tests in every region as an entrant or a judge. I am excited about the future of NAHRA, and I welcome the opportunity to expand my role. It is an honor to be selected as an Invitational judge and I am looking forward to working with my Co-judges to create an interesting and challenging opportunity for the top dogs in NAHRA to show what they are made of. Best of luck to all the qualifiers, and I look forward to meeting you in June!



### Maggie Rathje

NAHRA East Region Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association

I started training my first puppy to duck hunt in 1984 and was lucky enough to be introduced to the NAHRA program. Was hooked at my first started ribbon. Eight generations of my own breeding and training I have been blessed with many titles including GMHR, Invitational, Master, Derby, Qualifying, and Open and many more great experiences. My dogs have taken me to places and to meet people I never would have experienced without NAHRA. Judging has enhanced all of that. It is a huge satisfaction to see dogs and handlers solve the problems of the test and an education for myself as well. The excitement is addicting. Judging over 60 NAHRA tests and well over 50 other venue assignments I hope to bring experience and excitement to the Invitational. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

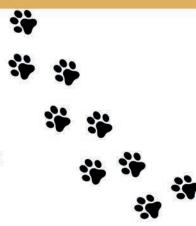


### **JUDGES**

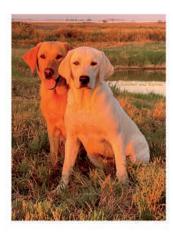


### Jim Karr

NAHRA East Region Leatherstocking Hunting Retriever Association



Many years ago, a standout young man (the pledge) pledged my fraternity at UVM. He came from a family of duck hunters and was a retriever enthusiast. I had a blind on a southern shore of Lake Champlain. On numerous occasions, when the wind was right, he and I cut classes, and with my first retriever, Shammy, we headed for the blind. Sham was a four -year-old Golden, and to paraphrase James Lamb Free in Training Your Retriever, at first he couldn't find a snow goose in a closet. It didn't take him long to become a good goose and duck retriever and a pheasant hunting maniac. For four years after graduate school, I lived, worked and hunted our Labs in East Africa, the Middle East and from Saskatchewan to the coast of Maine. Many adventures and stories!! Shortly after my family and I settled in Western NY, I joined the WESTERN NEW York Retriever Club. WNYRC was a Field Trial club, but also ran a very popular stake called Hunter (water and land marks) at our monthly trains. Many of our over 100 members were avid waterfowl and upland hunters. A few years later, in the mid-70's, the "pledge" presented to WNYRC a new organization abbreviated NAHRA. The "pledge" was none other than our first NAHRA President, Ned Spear. I was hooked and have enjoyed many years since judging and running my labs. Treper and Rachy earned the coveted GMHR title. I look forward to hearing the clarion call "Guns up-let's have a dog" at the 2023 Invitational. Congratulations and good luck to all handlers and their wonderful retrievers. It is truly an honor, along with Maggie Rathje and NAHRA President Phil Hines, to judge your teamwork and to uphold the high standards which make NAHRA the best of all hunting retriever programs. Many thanks to Jim Bennett for letting us use his wonderful grounds and to our local hosts, Appalachian Retriever Club, Northern Piedmont Retriever Club and the Eastern Shore Retriever Club.



Thank you to Joe Grohs and Dick
Ofstedal for offering the
services of Karma (Left) and Kali
(Right) as the official 2023
Invitational Test Dogs. Karma
and Kali are young up and
comers anxious to participate in
future Invitational events.





- 1. Which dog is the oldest participant this year?
- 2. Which dog is the youngest participant this year?
- 3. There are THREE dogs participating whose birthdays are historically significant for the U.S. Military. Who are they?
- 4. Only 1 month of the year has no birthdays for a participating dog. Which month is it?
- 5. Of the field of entries, how many dogs are NOT Labrador Retrievers?
- 6. How many GMHRCH's are participating in the Invitational This Year?
- 7. Which dog in the 2023 Field celebrated a birthday this week?
- 8. What year was the first NAHRA Field Test Held?
- 9. Where was the NAHRA Invitational held in 2015?
- 10. How many times does this graphic appear in the catalog?



#### See Page "Did you know" Section for answers



### MEET THE CLASS OF 2023



## GMHR-I Shohola Caoimhe "Caoimhe"

Owner / Handler: Keith Stroyan DOB: 02/13/2015 Sex: Female

Sire: FC AFC Trumarc's Hollandaise Dam: Sonshine's Dottie West

GHMR I Caoimhe (Gaelic "Keeva"), my 14th MHR, is the most talented retriever I have trained with, but she hasn't run many tests lately and they excite her! She brings to mind the nursery rhyme: There was a little girl, Who had a little curl, Right in the middle of her forehead, And when she was good she was very very good, But when she was bad she was horrid. I'm hoping she remembers who buys the dog food when she runs the invitational.



## GMHR AG's Sweet Caroline "Caroline"

Owner / Handler: Aaron Grieb DOB: 01/02/2018 Sex: Female

Sire: TTF Cas Hi Shady Character Dam: Vanderlinde's Lilly Glenbriar

I'm thrilled and honored to be handling a retriever alongside the incredible number of experienced trainers in this group. Caroline, or "Care Bear" as my kids call her, is my first retriever trained to this level. I've learned a lot over the past handful of years and hope to keep soaking up the knowledge of our gray beards before you all get too old to play this game! NAHRA is a family full of mentors and friends that I'm incredibly blessed to have found. Good luck to the field!



#### GMHRCH MUR Fowl Weather's Right On the Money "Cash"

Owner / Handler: Frank Plewa DOB: 09/11/2015 Sex: Male

Sire: GMHRCH MUR IV Fowl Weathers Final

Approach

Dam: Hi Hopes Fair Irish Lady

Look at a coin, you see two sides. Cash and his brother Primer reflect that as the two couldn't be more different in personality. Cash is truly a knucklehead being as pesty and getting into as much trouble as possible. Cash is the boy in front of the pool room while Primer is the choir boy, but that is where the distinction stops. Cash has been a stalwart hunter and companion for all his eight years. Despite a few stumbles and bad breaks in testing along the way, Cash has become a highly accomplished retriever in both the NAHRA venue and hunting blind. He has recently obtained his 1000 points and will retire from testing after the Invitational. A long, leggy, and powerful dog, he makes running and busting cover look effortless. He has served me good in the goose field, flooded timber and pheasant fields. Cash is an overly affectionate in your face dog which often gets him in trouble with Valerie. Not sure if he loves her that much or just tasting her for future use! Cash and I look forward to running this Invitational Event with you and hope all bring home the red, white, and blue!



#### MHR Cedarwood's Quaff a Lot "Chug"

Handler: Kim Smith
Owner: Kim Smith & Nancy Brandow

DOB: 03/11/2021 Sex: Male

Sire: GMHRCH III HRCH UH Cedarwood's

Brewmaster MH

Dam: CH Cedarwood's Having a Good Thyme CD

**BN RA** 

Chug is the 2 year old son of my best bud, Brewer. So far we are fortunate that he seems to have most of his dad's good genes, but only time will tell. Looking forward to this experience and wish all handlers the best of luck.



#### GMHR Sundance Rapid Fire "Colt"

Owner / Handler: Jim Bennett DOB: 11/24/2016 Sex: Male

Sire: Tweedshot Titus of Brenjon Dam: SDR's Sweet Dreams

Colt and I have been hunting and hunt test buddies for the last 6 years. We are looking forward to our first NAHRA Invitational together. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Cranesville.



## MHR Topbrass This Could Be Me SH WCX "Cuz"

Owner / Handler: Paul Zurka DOB: 07/02/2016 Sex: Male

Sire: Topbrass Mister Beau Jangles MH Dam:Topbrass U and Tequila Make Me Crazy MH

Cuz is a dark red Golden Retriever who loves to work, especially scouring the fields for roosters. He has a Working Certificate Excellent from the Golden Retriever Club of America, and he is working on his AKC Master Hunter title. We are looking forward to running the 2023 NAHRA Invitational and wish everyone the best of luck........ Oh, and he also likes to cuddle on the couch!



## Paradise Alley's Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie MH "Dixie"

Owner: Thomas and Katrina Stephanos Handler: Thomas Stephanos DOB: 03/01/2014 Sex: Female

Sire: Merganser's Yellow Jersey SH Dam: Marshmutts Flirtin With Disaster JH

Dixie was the last puppy from the last Floyd x Andi litter. We purchased Dixie with the goal of breeding her with our daughter's male lab Hunter. We had no previous experience with hunt tests and it was not until Dixie was 4 years old that she ran her first test and in two weekends earned her JH title. Dixie had a total of five litters (four different studs) during her breeding career that started in 2016 and ended in 2022. There are titled dogs in all but her very last litter. She loved to train but we never thought of running her at additional hunt tests until she was 7 years old. As a 7 year old, she quickly earned her SH title and then finished her MH title as an 8 year old. We just started running NAHRA tests this year and she is now closing in on earning her MHR title. She is not flashy and has a lot of grey in her muzzle but she is fairly consistent and is still having lots of fun.



## MHR Caernac's FXDL-Girl's Just Wanna Have Fun "Dyna"

Owner: Bruce & Vicki Butler Handler: Vicki Butler DOB: 07/19/2019 Sex: Female

Sire: FC AFC Bd North Shore's Instant Rain Gear QA2

Dam: Caernac's Balsam Hill's Dixie JH

Dyna certainly lives up to her name "Girl's Just Wanna Have Fun" she is crazy to retrieve and always excited to work. She's also fun to take the line. She truly is, as the saying goes a pocket rocket." Her ancestry is derived from lines that were owned by old acquaintances of ours that we think very highly of, both dogs and the people. We got off to a slow start, but now she's taking off like a rocket and we're looking forward to seeing how far she can take us. We are proud to be sharing the fun with such an elite group of people and dogs.



### GMHR MUR Touched by the Sun's Moon Shadow SH "Ember"

Owner: Joe Grohs, D.V.M. and Julie Grohs, D.V.M. Handler: Joe Grohs, D.V.M.

DOB: 03/12/2020 Sex: Female

Sire: Hunter's Upland Maverick QAA MH Dam: GMHRCHII GMUR Touched By The Sun's

Summer Breeze MH

Summer and I are proud to introduce several of her daughters to you this year. Touched By the Sun's Moon Shadow, "Ember", is a beautiful black bitch whelped in the spring of 2020. Ember has demonstrated all of her mother's admirable traits. From the beginning, she won my heart and impressed me with her natural talent and desire to please her human family. From the endless socks and toys brought to me at six weeks to her first wild pheasant delivered to hand at six months. We are pleased and proud to be sharing in fun and camaraderie of the 2023 NAHRA Invitational with all of you and your wonderful companions.



## Shore Thing Labs Sweet Georgia Peach MH "Georgie"

Owner: Thomas and Katrina Stephanos Handler: Thomas Stephanos DOB: 06/20/2018

Sex: Female

Sire: FC AFC Gunstock's Win Chester Dam: Southern Comfort Miss Foxy MH

Georgie was the first pick female from the first Chester x Missy litter. Chester is a hard-charging field trial dog and Georgie has a lot of his characteristics. Tom had a health issue at the end of 2018 and as a result, Georgie was with a professional trainer from the beginning of 2019 to the Fall of 2021. Georgie was very close to earning her MH title when she started experiencing mouth issues. It turned out that she had an impacted broken tooth that was infected. She had oral surgery in the Fall of 2019 and Tom has been training and handling her since she recovered from her surgery. Georgie finished her requirements for her MH title in the summer of 2022 and is closing in on her NAHRA MHR title. Georgie is the complete opposite of Dixie in almost every way and you have to always have the whistle in your mouth and air in your lungs when handling Georgie. Georgie had her first litter of puppies on 1/31/2023 and was surprisingly a very calm and laid back mother, hard to explain.



## GMHRCH-V NPRC'S Basking in the Glow of Good Enough "Hank"

Owner: Larry Housman and Victoria Pepper

Handler: Larry Housman DOB: 11/03/2013 Sex: Male

Sire: AFC Rebel Ridge Brace For Impact Dam: Wyn-Ne-Woods Avada Kedavra JH

Can't believe he wanted this picture but he said he wouldn't finish the last water blind if I didn't let him use it.



### MHR HRCH-UH Dakota Creek's Wreaking Havoc MH "Havoc"

Owner / Handler: Sue Snow DOB: 06/11/2013 Sex: Male

Sire: NAFTCH FTCH Mjolnir Bluebill of Allanport Dam: NMH GMH GMHR-V HRCH-UH Dakota Creek's

Royal Navigator MH

Havoc is a sibling to Dakota Creek's Royal Gem "Ruby". In liking what we saw in Ruby and her early development, we repeated the breeding of Gee x Blue a year later. Three pups were in that litter and we had no intention of keeping a pup and all went to their new homes in August that year. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Havoc was returned to us at twelve weeks old and never left! Like his sister Ruby, he is intense on the line and loves to retrieve whether playing the dog games or in the field hunting. Thankfully his name does not ring true (we did NOT name him!) for whether he is out in the field or at home he can be found laying at my feet wherever I may be!



#### MACH3 MHR WUR HR Morningstar Polar Jet Stream SH MHUA MXG PAD MJG PJD MFB TQX T2B2 DS TKI "Jet"

Owner/Handler: Mary Stankovics, D.V.M. DOB: 03/06/2013

Sex: Female

Sire: Goldnecol Knock Me Off My Feet

Dam: Morningstar M-11

Jet and I are absolutely thrilled to be running our first NAHRA Invitational. Jet has been an accomplished partner, earning field titles in multiple venues (Hunt Tests and Upland Tests in NAHRA, AKC and HRC, GRCA WCX), agility (AKC, USDAA and UKI) and some fun titles in dock diving and tricks. Her favorite pastime though is pheasant hunting. Participating in these dog events have afforded us the opportunity to see and go places I'd probably never go and meet all the wonderful folks that work so hard to put on these events. We look forward to meeting new and old friends alike. We wish all participants the best of luck!



## GMHR Three Sisters Mountain Lucille "Lucy"

Owner/Handler: Robert Maloney

DOB: 12/15/2015 Sex: Female

Sire: Lewis River Rocket Dam: Waylon's Little Girl

Lucy and I have enjoyed training together, traveling together, hunting together and competing together across many miles and many states during the past six years. Mom often makes the trip with us to watch Lucy run. This will be our third NAHRA Invitational. I look forward to seeing a lot of good friends in Pennsylvania.



#### MHR WR Taverna Giardina's Luna "Luna"

Owner: Lucille Giardina Handler: Frank Plewa DOB: 05/16/2017 Sex: Female

Sire: FC AFC Jazztime Last Chance V Pekisko Dam: Contender's Underground Doll

An intense prey drive is the best description of this little fireball. She never stops hunting even at home so nothing with fur or feathers is safe in the yard. In fact, that drive gets her in Dutch with the trainer often making it an endurance test just getting to the line! While she is small enough to dry off with a napkin, she has more heart and drive than a lot of dogs I have trained. Luna is a very biddable dog who is a great marker, has a superior nose, and hunts with intent and purpose. While still perfecting her blinds, I just think it's incredible what she has accomplished because gun dog training was not introduced to her until she was 3 years old! Miss Luna achieved her WR and MHR in less than a month to qualify for this Invitational. I am really looking forward to seeing what Luna can do in this event. Best wishes to all of you and hope your event is successful. Good luck to all!



### GMHRCH Stony Brook's Take it to the Limit MH "Maxx"

Owner: Ann & David Mellender Handler: David Mellender DOB: 05/23/2015

Sex: Male

Sire: Stony Brook High Octane Dam: Stony Brook Crown Royal

This will be Maxx's third Invitational; we are quite honored to be here. Since running our first Invitational in 2018, Maxx and I continue to work hard at achieving our goals through training and perseverance. Maxx had no idea how big the shoes were that he was expected to fill when he came to live with us. He has filled the void better than any of my expectations. He still loves "playing" the dog games, it keeps us sharp for the upcoming hunting seasons whether in North Dakota chasing pheasants or in the marshes chasing ducks and geese. Can't forget to mention all the wonderful places we have been to run tests and sightsee, and meeting all the great people and friends of NAHRA!



#### MHR Sushi's Kid Delta Marsh Mielikki "Mieka"

Owner: Dick & Kathy Ofstedal Handler: Dick Ofstedal DOB: 03/20/2017

Sex: Female

Sire: TKO Take'm In the Tenth Kid Dam: O's Delta Marsh Yellow Tail Sushi

Mieka is Kathy's favorite pet in our household. Mieka and Kathy frequently share the couch as they enjoy watching movies together. Lucky for me, she lets me train and run Mieka in numerous events where she has earned her GMHR, HRCH, MH and QA2. Mieka is also a fun dog to have as a hunting companion in the fields of Canada and the marshes of Minnesota. About the only time my heart rate increases at tests with her is in the NAHRA upland series. She scans the field for the box then rushes in - sometime she stops on the flush - sometimes she doesn't. We are looking forward to sharing another great week with our NAHRA friends. Good luck to all participants.



## GMHR-II Wayne Knight's Blackish Merkin QAA "Newman"

Owner: Larry Housman & Victoria Pepper

Handler: Larry Housman DOB: 02/04/2018

Sex: Male

Sire: NAFC FC AFC Mulligan Off The Rainy "T" JH

Dam: Brezee Oak's Keep To The Code

He likes potatoes. What else can I say?



## MHR WUR Touched By The Sun's Nike On The Horizon "Nike"

Owner: Joe Grohs, D.V.M. and Julie Grohs, D.V.M.
Handler: Julie Grohs, D.V.M.
DOB: 10/21/2017

Sex: Female

Sire: Fen's Hot Wheels MH

Dam: MHR Wetland's Winsome Lady MH

Touched By The Sun's Nike On The Horizon "Nike" (Victory in Greek mythology) is making her first appearance at the Invitational this year. This also my first time running in the Invitational. Many thanks to Joe, Frank and to our extended NAHRA family around the country for all of your support. Many of you know that our first NAHRA dogs were also show dogs and slightly slower moving than "the Nikester". I now refer to running the very speedy Nike in a hunt test as mindfulness meditation, as every millisecond requires undivided attention and focus. If I seem a little "zenned out" at the competition, just know that I am trying my best to stay focused on my little black rocket and I'll catch up with you later! Best wishes to everyone, see you there.



#### GMHR East Point Penelope SH "Penny"

Owner/Handler: George Waldenmaier

DOB: 04/18/2018 Sex: Female

Sire: Brentwood's Water Bug

Dam: East Point Lola

They say that every dog has their day. I'm hoping that Penny's day is during the Invitational. After a lifetime of beagle field trials, Penny is my first hunt test lab and what's not to love about the joy, enthusiasm, intelligence and unconditional love of these incredible dog athletes?

A striking contrast between a beagle field trial and a NAHRA event is that in beagleing I usually ran against dogs that lived in pens and did not know their own names. In NAHRA it seems everyone has spent thousands of hours training and bonding with their dog and everyone loves their dog as much as I do Penny. It is great to be among so many supportive, knowledgeable and often hilarious NAHRA friends. Good luck to everyone. I hope we all pass.



#### GMHRCH-I MUR Fowl Weather's Black Powder Charge "Primer"

Owner/Handler: Frank Plewa DOB: 06/06/2015 Sex: Male

Sire: GMHRCH-IV MUR Fowl Weathers

Final Approach

Dam: MHR Homeports Driving Miss Daisy

Primer has had some big shoes to fill following the dogs I have had the pleasure to own and train and the fact that I thought early on he didn't have the skills to be a great retriever. Furthermore, his brother Cash appeared to be the chosen one getting most of the attention at least early on. However, "the quiet man" as I have nicknamed him, blossomed into a great test dog, hunting and home companion. Always in the background to the other dogs but always performing as needed. He has filled this hunters' expectations in the field and the marsh and exceeded them in the test game recently, achieving his 1000 points without a miss! At home, he is always upbeat and entertaining, as are most Labs. But when its time for business, he is all that. I guess I am not a perfect judge of dog flesh as I was not on the mark with this guy. Primer and I wish all the dogs and handlers' success in this event and look forward to running with you all. Pick 'em up Clean!



## GMHR Silver Lightning in the Reeds "Reed"

Owner/Handler: Ron Koumaras DOB: 12/07/2014 Sex: Male

Sire: Chase Wrangler Magura Dam: Chesney Cabella Magura

Reed started his working life as a hunting partner until we started NAHRA hunt tests for fun and to help keep him tuned up for hunting season. You can find him during the fall floating down rivers in a kayak hunting ducks, in a corn field hunting geese, or upland hunting pheasant through sorghum. He is a very versatile, skilled hunting companion who never ceases to amaze. He has always enjoyed training, hunting, and testing, and he never stops. Through his hard work, he was fortunate to obtain his GMHR in 2022, which he and his owner are extremely proud of. I have learned to value and will continue to enjoy all of our time together in the field and in the blind. My favorite days are watching the sunrise with ducks circling above and Reed at my side.



#### GMHR-I HRCH-UH Dakota Creek's Royal Gem MH "Ruby"

Owner/Handler: Sue Snow DOB: 02/01/2012 Sex: Female

Sire: NAFTCH FTCH Mjolnir Bluebill of Allanport Dma: NMH GMH GMHR-V HRCH-UH Dakota Creek's

Royal Navigator MH

With our success in running tests, trials and hunting with then MHR-I Dakota Creek's Royal Navigator, Gee was bred to Blue, the winner of the 2011 Canadian National Amateur Field Trial. With that breeding we found our "pick of the litter", as the female with the red collar remained at our center of attention and "Ruby" was chosen as our next NAHRA candidate. Ruby has followed in Gee's footsteps, extremely intense on the line and working as a team player whether she is running marks or blinds. Ruby was bred to FTCH AFTCH Flatlands Baydog of Allanport and pups from that first and repeat breeding are now following in both their mother and grandmother's footsteps running NAHRA field tests, hunt tests and field trials, so the torch continues to be passed!



#### GMHR Beaconbanks Owl "Seamus"

Owner: Bruce Jenkins Handler: Frank Plewa DOB: 06/07/2018 Sex: Male

Sire: FTCH Troddenmills Full Throttle

Of Leacaz Dam: Norbeck Flora

Every 5 to 7 years I get a new lab. My theory is the young dog is learning and the older dog is a well trained finished retriever with a lot of hunting in his future. This process has served me well with my last 2 dogs coming from Irish or English field trial lines. I was pleased with the results and continued in that direction. In my search for a new pup I spoke to many breeders with no luck. I then spoke to Alan Dolan a NPRC member from Ireland and he volunteered to find me a new pup. After looking at many photos and pedigrees. Alan came through as promised, he hit a home run with my new pup Seamus. After being born outside of London, then traveling to Scotland to Northern Ireland to the Irish Republic and then to the US Seamus was here and training started. With the help of Frank Plewa, Seamus has progressed into an accomplished retriever, a gentleman around the house and a great companion. Seamus trains hard and hunts hard, with great game finding ability and marks well. I could not be more proud of his work in the field and I am looking forward to his participation in the Invitational.



# GMHRCH-II GMUR Touched by the Sun's Summer Breeze MH "Summer"

Owner: Joe Grohs, D.V.M. and Julie Grohs, D.V.M.

Handler: Joe Grohs, D.V.M. DOB: 09/30/2014 Sex: Female

Sire: GMPR MHR Rik's Risky Raider MH Dam: MHR Special K's Good Golly

Miss Molly MH QAA

Summer continues to enrich my life in many ways. In the recent past she has produced two amazing litters to further her legacy. As athletic and energetic as Summer is in the field, she is the perfect companion at home, sitting at my feet or snuggling as close as possible to me on the couch. When hunting or at a competition, one is always greeted by a wagging tail and her eyes asking but one question, "was that good enough to please you my human friend?" There is a beautiful spirit embodied in this wonderful yellow Labrador bitch, as Summer brings adventure, companionship and warmth to Julie's and my life as only one of God's beautiful Summer breezes can. To my friends and their equally wonderful companions, I wish that you all have fun and success in this 2023 NAHRA Invitational.



## GMHR-I County Line Chief Tickles JH SH "Tic"

Owner/Handler: Jesse Furman DOB: 05/06/2015 Sex: Male

Sire: Chiefs Duke Charles' Dam: Nelsons Bella Sage Brush

Here we are again, this will be our 2nd time at the Invitational under contention {test dog of the 2021 Invitational}. Tic is 8 this year. We had so much fun last year we have decided to come run on the East Coast. Last year we ran a perfect year in NAHRA, and that continued into our waterfowl and upland seasons.

With over 3000 retrieves in the field we absolutely love life! Good luck and have fun everyone!



### MHR MUR Touched By The Sun's First Light "Venus"

Owner: Joe Grohs, D.V.M. and Julie Grohs, D.V.M. Handler: Joe Grohs, D.V.M.

DOB: 03/12/2020

Sex: Female

Sire: Hunter's Upland Maverick QAA MH Dam: GMHRCHII GMUR Touched By The Sun's

Summer Breeze MH

Summer and I are proud to introduce several of her daughters to you this year. "Venus", Touched By The Sun's First Light, is a powerful and beautiful yellow bitch whelped in the spring of 2020. Testing the speed of light and the timing of my whistle, Venus won my heart and respect with her immense natural talents and willingness to partner with me for the hunt or the test. I admire her ability to think for herself and yet bend to the will of her human friend for the good of the team. Venus's passion for the hunt was obvious to me as she proudly presented her first pheasant to my hands as a six month old puppy. As much as she immensely enjoys the the challenges and excitement of the hunt, her love for just snuggling quietly at my side is clearly what life is all about. We are both are looking forward to sharing the fun and camaraderie of the 2023 NAHRA Invitational with all of you and your equally wonderful companions.



## MHR Ruff and Rowdy Days Waylyn "Waylyn"

Owner/Handler: Wendy Koumaras

DOB: 04/23/2020 Sex: Female

Sire: SRSAC 5xGRHRCH UH Running On The Verge

Of Chaos MH HOF

Dam: GRHRCH UH North Fork's Whistlestop Idgie

MH21 MNH

Waylyn certainly lives up to her registered name "Ruff and Rowdy Days Waylyn", keeping me on my toes and putting a smile on my face every day. She has been a joy to train with her drive in the field and quick learning abilities, but more than that, she is the best companion at home and on adventures. She is an absolute sweetheart giving love to everyone she meets and welcoming all fur friends. She is a blast to hunt pheasant over, checking every possible hiding spot. I can't wait to see what this little firecracker has in store for me in the years to come!



## MHR Shore Thing Labs Whistlin' Willow SH "Willow"

Owner: Thomas and Katrina Stephanos Handler: Thomas Stephanos DOB: 11/11/2020

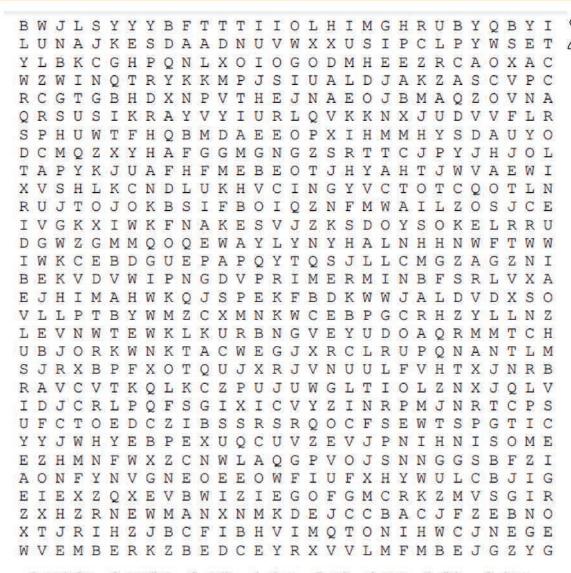
Sex: Female

Sire: Daddy's Wingman JH CGC

Dam: Paradise Alley's Ain't Just Whistlin' Dixie MH

Willow is from the second Whistler x Dixie litter. We always wanted to keep one of Dixie's puppies and we are so glad to have Dixie's daughter Willow. Willow's father is a wonderful dog who belongs to a professional trainer who allowed Tom to handle him during training sessions. Willow has her Dad's speed and drive and a lot of her Mom's smarts but is still maturing and hopefully learning that she doesn't need to go at top speed all the time. Tom says "easy" when handling Willow probably more than any other word. Willow has so far come along nicely and we are very hopeful that she will continue to progress and develop into a nice, steady all around retriever. Willow just earned her MHR title and she is very excited about participating in the 2023 NAHRA Invitational.

### WORD SEARCH



1. caoimhe 2. caroline 3. cash 4. chug 5. colt 6. cuz 7. dixie 8. dyna

13. jet 14. lucy

17. mieka 18. newman 19. nike 20. penny 21. primer 22. reed 23. ruby

11. hank 12. havoc

17. mieka 16. newman 19. nike 20. penny 21. primer 22. reed 23. ruby

24. seamus 25. summer 26. tic 27. venus 28. waylyn 29. willow 30. nahra

31. invitational



10. georgie

9. ember



15. luna

16. maxx



Lars and Lenda Barker with Lolenda Labs has been in the NAHRA program since the 2nd year of NAHRA's existence as both participants and judges. Lenda was the first 100 point woman judge and Lars and Lenda started the first NAHRA club in both Phoenix, Arizona and Kalispell, Montana. When NAHRA dropped the Invitational (National event) for several years, Lars and Lenda Barker were the ones to instigate it again by organizing the Invitational at Scenic Mesa Ranch in Hotchkiss, Colorado in 2006 and it has been strong again ever since.

In 1996 **Lolenda Labs** made "Hunting Dog History" when their Dam (GMHRCH Lacy Lee of Lolenda) and her three pups (Lolenda's GMHR Caballero Blanco, MHR Chantilly Lace of Lolenda and MHR Lolenda's Pulco Negro) all qualified and competed at the Invitational (National Hunting Event). For three years in a row, **Lacy**, was one of the top 40 dogs in the country to be invited to the Invitational, where NAHRA paid travel, hotel and transportation for handlers and dogs. What an experience and honor that was!

**Lolenda Labs** had four Grandmaster Hunting Retriever Champions in their line and countless Started Retrievers, Hunters, Working Retrievers and Master Hunter Retrievers. Their line has also extended into HRC and AKC events including additional Junior Hunters, Senior Hunters and Master Hunters.

The **Barker's** contribution of \$10,000 to help with the 'start up fee' for clubs to host the Invitational for the next 20 years is an effort to keep **NAHRA** the best "Hunting Dog Organization in the country!"



Lars and Lenda Barker of Lolenda Labs

### **GOLD SPONSORS**







### SILVER SPONSORS





### **BRONZE SPONSORS**

#### FOWL WEATHER ADVENTURES

#### **GUIDED WATERFOWL HUNTS**

- · South Central Pennsylvania
- · Field and Water Blinds
- · Booking Hours from 6-9 pm

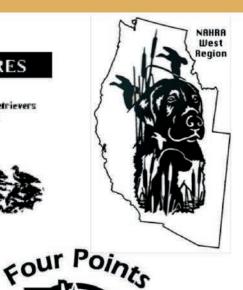


Frank Plewa 1479 Hanover Road Gettysburg, PA 17325 717-334-7135

#### **GUN DOGS**

- · Lubrador Retrievers
- · Stud Service
- Puppies









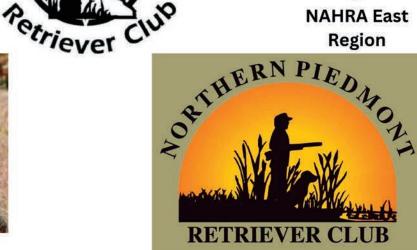
**NAHRA East** Region

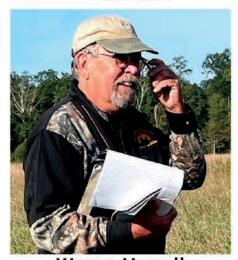


**NAHRA West** Region



Paul Zurka

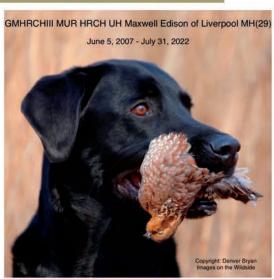




Wayne Howell



**Jeff Riebling** 



Karen Loh

### FRIENDS OF NAHRA SPONSORS





















## THE RETRIEVER TRAINER Created By Freddy King

# ZINGER

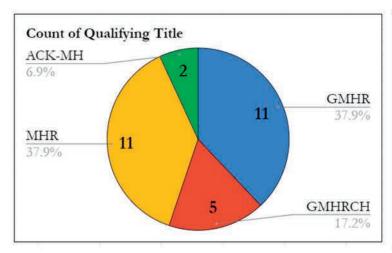


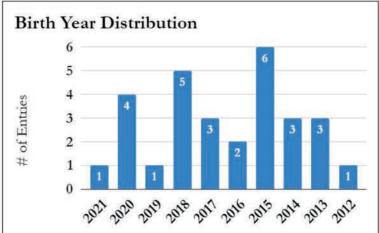


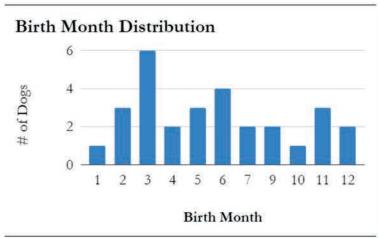


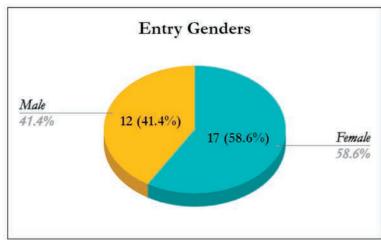
Glenda Field - Alaskan Artist gfield@yahoo.com 907-987-4033

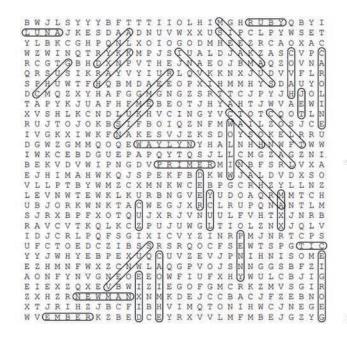












#### Trivia Answers:

- 1. Ruby
- 2. Chug
- 3. Willow, Cash, Primer
- 4. August
- 5.2
- 6.5
- 7. Georgie
- 8.1985
- 9. Baldwinsville, NY
- 10.8

## CALLBACKS

#		Dog	Series					
	Handler		1	2	3	4	5	Qual.
i	Joe Grohs, D.V.M.	Summer						
2	Vicki Butler	Dyna						
3	Frank Plewa	Cash						
4	Wendy Koumaras	Waylyn						
5	Kim Smith	Chug						
6	Joe Grohs, D.V.M.	Venus						
7	Aaron Grieb	Caroline	2					
8	Frank Plewa	Primer						
9	Thomas Stephanos	Dixie						
10	Keith Stroyan	Caoimhe						
11	Joe Grohs, D.V.M.	Ember						
12	Dick Ofstedal	Mieka						
13	Frank Plewa	Luna						
14	Thomas Stephanos	Willow						
15	Mary Stankovics, D.V.M.	Jet						
16	Julie Grohs	Nike						
17	Sue Snow	Havoc						
18	Frank Plewa	Seamus						
19	Thomas Stephanos	Georgie	8					20
20	Robert Maloney	Lucy						
21	Paul Zurka	Cuz						
22	Jesse Furman	Tic						
23	Ron Koumaras	Reed						9
24	Sue Snow	Ruby	3					
25	Larry Housman	Hank		•				
26	George Waldenmaier	Penny						
27	David Mellender	Махх		le.				1- 21
28	Jim Bennett	Colt						
29	Larry Housman	Newman						

